



Pennsylvania State House Gaming and Oversight Committee ***Monday, June 10, 2019***

Group 1:

Tom Marino, Vice President of Government Affairs/Public Relations & Counsel for Pace-O-Matic – Pace-O-Matic:

Chairmen, Vice-Chairs, State Representatives and members of the audience, I appreciate the opportunity to testify before this distinguished Committee.

My name is Tom Marino and I serve as the Vice President of Government Affairs/Public Relations & Counsel for Pace-O-Matic. Prior to taking on this role, I served as United States Congressman from the 10th and 12th Districts, United States Attorney for the Department of Justice and a District Attorney in Lycoming County.

Considering my past roles, you may be asking what led me to work for Pace-O-Matic and Pennsylvania Skill. I appreciate, and I am proud to be working with a Pennsylvania company that is expanding manufacturing in Lycoming County, my home. As someone who spent a career in law enforcement, I want to make sure you understand that Pennsylvania Skill amusement devices are legal and have been adjudicated by the Court of Common Pleas in Beaver County. This decision that was included in the packet of materials that we have provided to this Committee. This case was not appealed by the Pennsylvania State Police, with the understanding that the Pennsylvania State Police would abide by the court's decision. As a prosecutor for over 18 years, I know very well that only legislators create laws and judges interpret those laws. Law enforcement's job is to enforce the law. The State Police should not be harassing our customers, they should be picking up illegal games.

I believe in this product and I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact it has had on our communities... countless jobs that have been created, the small businesses which have been saved, the clubs, VFWs, Legions and Volunteer Firefighter halls which have gone from bankruptcy to thriving due to our legal Pennsylvania Skill amusement devices. Even better, these amusement devices are manufactured right here in Pennsylvania, by Miele Manufacturing, and nearly all of the parts and materials are sourced from the United States... mostly from Pennsylvania, including, the cabinets, steel, wires, etc. Miele Manufacturing went from about a dozen employees to well over one-hundred employees. While it was alleged last week in a press conference that we do not pay taxes, I want to be clear that our company pays tens of millions in taxes. That is something you will be hearing more about in a few minutes from our economic analyst, Peter Zaleski.



As someone who once sat in your shoes as a legislator, I would have great respect for Pennsylvania Skill, because we are walking through the front door... meeting with legislators, talking to interest groups and we have the courage to stand before this body to ask you to implement responsible regulations on this growing industry.

For those of you concerned about illegal machines, we share those concerns. We must weed out the illegal in the market and further cement the marketplace for legal skill machines, help small businesses, clubs, VFWs, American Legions, local fire halls and fraternal clubs and provide tax revenue to the Commonwealth.

Thank you and I would now like to yield the balance of my time to Rick Goodling, Compliance Supervisor for Pace-O-Matic in the Commonwealth and the rest of the panel.